MORE CONNECTIONS

When Carl Mather was interviewed by the Assassinations Committee, he stated that "on November 22, 1963, he had worked all day at the Collins Radio Co., in Richardson. Mather said his boss at the time at Collins was J.A. Pickford."[19] The Mathers said the FBI never interviewed Carl, but talked to his wife twice. She said that they never owned any kind of red car. "Mather described his background as including security clearance for electronics work. He has been employed with Collins Radio Co. for twenty-one years. One assignment involved work in Brandywine, Md., at Andrews Air Force Base, where he did electronics work on then Vice President Lyndon Johnson's airplane Air Force Two."[20]

". . . Wise recalled having dinner with the Mathers and described Carl Mather as 'too nervous to eat,' but his wife was 'cool, very cool.' "

"There was an additional allegation of a red car near the scene of the Tippit shooting. A witness to the Tippit murder, Domingo Benevides, testified that at 'about 1 o'clock,' on November 22, 1963, . . . Benevides said in his testimony that a car which he believed to be a red Ford was parked in front of him on Tenth Street. He described the driver of the red car as about 25 or 30 years old. Benevides said the man pulled over in his car 'when he heard the scare' but did not get out of the car. He was located about six cars from the police car" (Tippit's). White had said, "he believed the car to be a red 1961 Falcon . . ." (Ford)[21]

From this evidence, it would appear that someone borrowed the license plates from Mather's Plymouth and then returned them.

"The Committee did locate and interview a man who said he was at the scene of the Tippit shooting but never came forward with information."[22]

"Committee investigators interviewed Jack Ray Tatum . . . he saw a young white male walking on the sidewalk near the squad car. Both the police car and the young man were heading *east* on Tenth Street. As Tatum approached the squad car, he saw the young male leaning over the passenger side of the

police car, with both hands in his zippered jacket. Tatum said that as he drove through the intersection of Tenth and Patton Streets he heard three shots in rapid succession . . . At that point he saw the police officer lying on the ground near the front of the police car, with the young male standing near him. Tatum said the man ran toward the back of the police car with a gun in his hand. The man then stepped back into the street and shot the police officer as he was lying on the ground. The man then started to run in Tatum's direction. Tatum said he then sped off in his car and last saw the man running south on Patton toward Jefferson."[23]

The Committee ends this report with what researchers had previously noted: that Tippit worked part-time at Austin's Barbecue, and that the owner, Austin Cook, was a member of the John Birch Society. "Cook was asked if he had known Jack Ruby, Cook replied that he may have met Ruby, but he could not recall." We learn that Cook sold a business which was later bought by Ralph Paul, a close friend of Ruby. Ralph Paul lived at the time of the assassination in the lower level of the home of the Bowmans, who were partners with Cook, and who sold the Bull Pen to Ralph Paul. "According to Mrs. Bowman, Ralph Paul expressed great concern for his friend Jack Ruby after the shooting of Oswald."[24]

The Committee talked to the former wife of Austin Cook; she said that "Ralph Paul was a mutual friend of the Cooks and Jack Ruby."[25]

Ruby went out to dinner with Paul the night before President Kennedy's murder. The owner of the restaurant where they ate—Joseph Campisi—was well connected with the Mafia, and came to see Ruby later in jail. Ruby stayed in touch with Paul throughout the fateful weekend.[26]